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23455

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor **Alfonso BRANCA**  
Patent App. **Not known (US Nat'l phase of  
PCT/EP2004/005540)**  
Filed **Concurrently herewith**  
For **JUNCTION SYSTEM AND PROCEDURE FOR JOINING A  
FILIFORM ELEMENT TO A CONNECTION ELEMENT**  
Art Unit **Not known**  
Hon. Commissioner of Patents  
Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination of the above-identified application,  
please amend as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Page 1, before Paragraph 1 insert